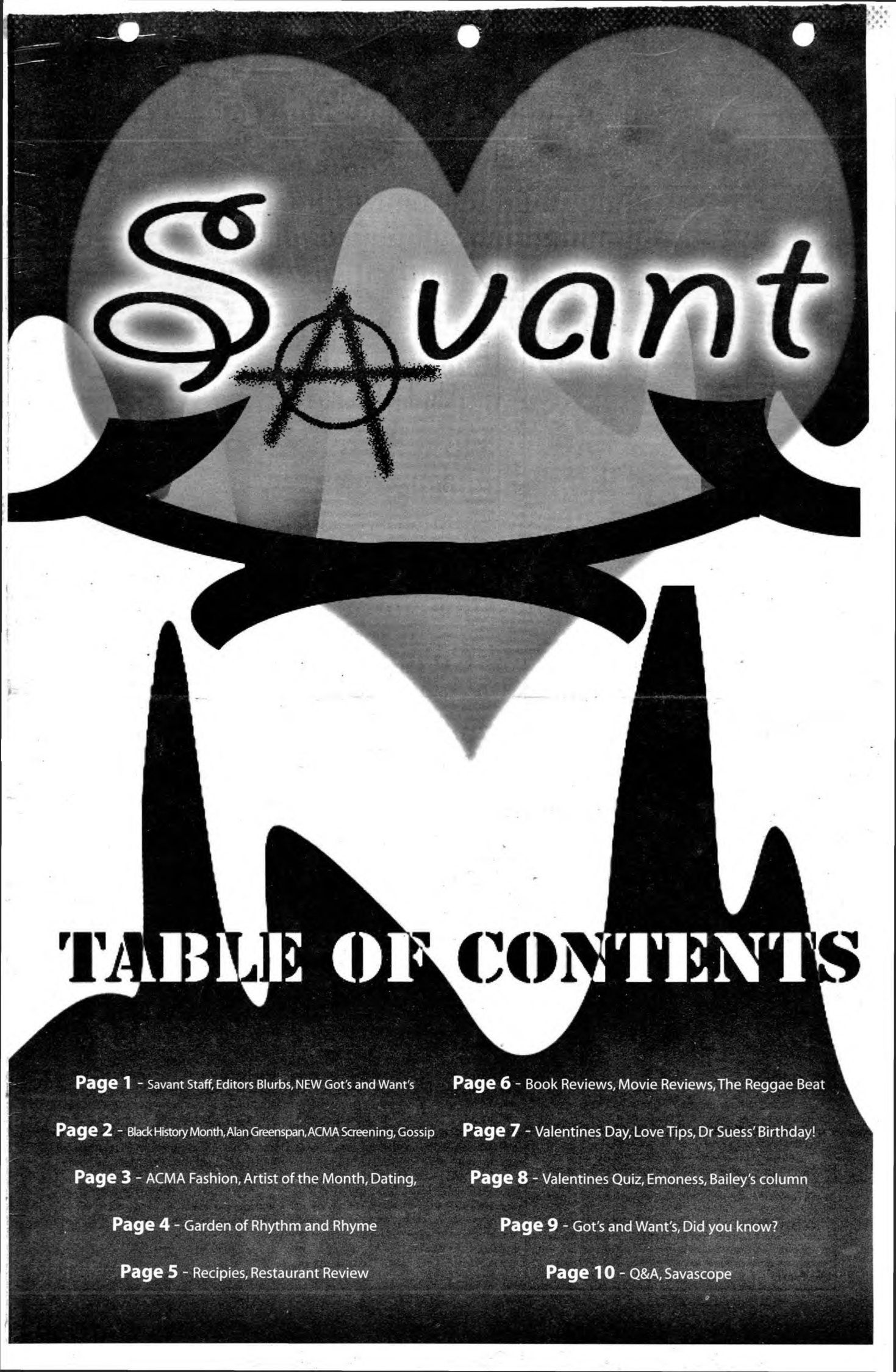




Savant

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Editorial Policy

Savant is a student organized and written News-azine. All opinions expressed within the articles are those of the student reporters and editors which may not necessarily reflect the viewpoints of the school.

All letters to the editors and advice columnists will be printed space provided, and will not be discriminated against except in the case of libelous information or personal attacks. Savant editors hold the right to edit any and all letters, and names may be withheld upon request.

This newspaper, being the product of middle and high school students is targeted for mature middle school students and up. Any complaints, concerns, or questions must be sent to savant-crew@gmail.com where we, the staff of Savant, will try to meet all of your needs.



Photographer

Sara Gally (yes, of herself!)

Alysha Kunkel

This month has been by far one of the most interesting this year, at least were it concerns Savant. After five months of school we ACTUALLY had people OTHER than Lavi, Jesse, Sara, Edmond and I working on the pages for the newspaper.

On another note, I have heard from the ACMA rumor mill that some of the student population does not like the new "feel" of Savant. To this I can only say that we are experimenting and until we the crew, get actual COMPLAINTS by e-mail or letter-- we are not going to change a darn thing. Deal.

-Alysha

PS. Thank you to those few who submitted articles, poetry and artwork to Savant. Your contribution is appreciated and will be printed in the March edition.

Sara Gally

Ah February, the month for love, groundhogs predicting spring (which explains the windstorms that lock little children indoors so they can be protected from mother nature), and all kinds of contagious bugs being shared. Not to mention migraines post valentines day dinner. What a terrible holiday. In fact, Jared even wrote an article about how terrible Valentines day actually is! (pg 7)

I don't think this issue was worked on by both Alysha and myself in the same room at any given moment in time, so its coming out in march, and its all scrambled like your sunday morning breakfast.

Bon Appetite!

Photographer
Sara Gally



Got's and Want's; A method to the Maddness

As usual, my little found raising brain has been ticking, and Savant has come up with a new idea to make money. Who's idea it really was, I can't remember, I think it might have been Gary Stein. Any how, that doesn't matter, what matters is that you give us your money so that Savant can continue on as a honored school tradition.

What will you get in exchange for your money, you ask? Well, a got's and want's ad of course! Its a simple deal, you give us money, we give you space in Savant to find something you really really really need (or just want), or to sell something that you really really really don't need (or just don't want). Either way, every one wins.

To purchase an ad, you have to write it first, put in all the details you can including sizes, color, brand, what your item is etc. Also, of you want to have a picture of your time, take one! Bring all of your ad materials to the Main Office where our beautiful Cindy is doing us a big favor. With the cheeriest smile you can muster up (it doesn't work if you aren't smiling) give Cindy your ad, maybe a picture, and your money. All of these items need to be in an envelope (provided by yourself) labeled with your first and last name, as well as your Ohana and grade.

If your placing an ad with out a picture, you owe us \$1.50, if you would like a picture with your ad, you owe us \$2.00. It is up to you to give us exact change, Cindy cannot do this for you, and neither can we. If you leave a \$20.00 bill in the envelope with your ad, we will consider it a huge donation towards the

production of Savant.

After you have completed these steps, we, the staff of Savant, will pick up the materials you left us, and print your ad, space provided with your picture. If you don't leave us money, we won't print it. All materials (including pictures) are Savant property, it eligible to be edited due to grammatical errors or overall inappropriateness, and will not be returned to the student. In this case, if you want to E-mail us a scan of the picture, or E-mail us the ad all together, it would be much appreciated. You can do so at savant-crew@gmail.com, this means you still have to leave an envelope with Cindy in the Main Office with your money, or your ad will not get printed.

Once you have completed all of these steps, you must read the next edition of Savant in order to find your contact number. With this number other students may respond to your ad, and you may check your responses. It is your responsibility to come into the Library (when it is open), and check your cubby that is labeled with your ad number. If you do not check your cubby before the next edition of Savant comes out, all materials within your cubby will be recycled and the cubby will be labeled with a new ad number.

Comprende? If you have any questions you can E-mail me, Sara the Savant editor, at the affair mentioned E-mail address.

Good Night and Good Luck!



Source: Internet

Black History Month

By Jasmine Edayan, Sophomore

Black history month is celebrated throughout America every February. Dating back to 1926, Carter G. Woodson, the son of former slaves, ensured Black History's accurate documentation.

February is the month clearly set for Black American recognition. The second week of this month was designated particularly in honor of those leaders who were of support to African Americans (Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln). These two men had a great impact on the past, present and future black population.

February is here to pay tribute to the inspirational black leaders of our past. Black History month was once known as 'negro history week' and today is still being recognized as the four week long celebration of African-American history.

Many of you may ask why we even have such a celebration in remembrance of past African-American leaders. Some may even ask why African-Americans? Why not

Asians? Or Caucasians? Or Mexicans? Or Indonesians? Why not have a month specifically marked for every other ethnicity represented in the U.S?

And the answer is as simple as this: though much of America's past seemed to dwell on the lives of slaves and white male domination, there came a time when African-American's began to take a hold on their own fate and lives. The saddened past of slave abuse and the existence of slavery came to a slow halt as Black leaders began taking a stance.

Black History Month is known to our calendars due to inspirational leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr. and many others. The devastation, painful memories, racism and loss caused by slavery leaves an imprint on the lives of those it touches. And it is not to be forgotten. That is why Black History is celebrated, that is why our nation made it a point to care.

Alan Greenspan, A True American Hero

Jesse Brennan, Senior

An economist, a Jew, a saxophonist, all are attributes of a great man, but on a deeper level, he was a friend to all. Born in New York City in 1926, Alan Greenspan was destined to do great things. As the recent Stock boom at ACMA is winding down to an end, it is important to look back on the people that make everything possible. In Alan Greenspan is king. There are other important people involved in politics, like the president, but really while Greenspan was in office, he ruled.

Alan Greenspan attended New York University, and received a B.S in Economics (summa cum laude) in 1948, and an M.A in Economics in 1950. Much later, in 1977, NYU awarded him a Ph.D. in Economics. On June 2, 1987 President Reagan nominated Alan Greenspan to succeed Paul Volcker as Chairman of the United States Federal Reserve. After the nomination, markets experienced their biggest one day drop in 5 years. Just two months after he started he was faced with his first crisis, the 1987 stock market crash. With his confusing but fact based speeches,



Source: Internet

Greenspan lessened the damage from that crash.

As Alan Greenspan is concluding his 18-year run as Chairman of the Federal Reserve, it is important to remember the man who has been awarded with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the United States, by President George W., honored as a Knight Commander of the British Empire in 2002 and Commander of the Légion d'honneur (Legion of Honor). Alan Greenspan should be looked upon not as another politician, but rather as a true American hero.

ACMA Screening

Tonia Miller

ACMA is a place that is always on a changing path, every year we gather new students that carry new talent. Now you may be wondering how they get in. Well according to our principal, "the application process to ACMA has not changed from last year."

However to our seniors who have at least been here since freshman year, they carry the old process with them, something that new application students can no longer do. A senior by the name of 'Patch' had this to say on how he entered the halls of ACMA. "I was interviewed by Mrs. Erwin during the summer and noticed at the end of summer that I had met all specifications and requirements to be accepted into A&C." Although this way is no longer practiced or done. The so called "interviewing" process is always changing much like our school.

The staff of ACMA does one step further to entrust that the students who soon come to join our community, have a meeting with one in the following; Judy Chown, who is the Magnet coordinator and Mr. Yambouranis the vice principle or Mr. Johnson the principal. They take ten minutes during the time of a designated shadow visit. This becomes very helpful in understanding the student's interest in attending ACMA.

Attending ACMA is an honor, and for those of you who think this process is unfair, it is "being modified to assure fairness, equity, and equal access," as said by



Photographer
Jasmine Edayan

Mr. Johnson.

If there are any further concerns, forward all or any to Mrs. Chown.

Thank you.

Gossip Column: Love Edition

Megan O'Doherty, Sophomore



Photographer
Jasmine Edayan

Love is in the air, or at least heart felt hormonal affection shown in yearly commercial zeal with candy, flowers and teddy bears that yell "Hallmark moments" into your special someone's ear as well as everyone else nearby. However, for your gossip columnist this is prime material to report on the happenings in the hall. This year not only are long time lovers celebrating the fact that they are still together, but also other flowers of love are blooming all over the classrooms, lunchtables, doorways and anywhere else that poses semi-privacy in ACMA.

Brittany Self and Taylor Libonati; what do they have in common? Both dancers, very attractive, very good-hearted and adorably goofy in their endless cheer. Little did I know that they would direct their cheer towards one another in the spirit of Valentine's day. How did this come about you might wonder? Well, after a little investigating I have found the source. It all started with JJ Kirkpatrick, ACMA's personal cupid.

JJ saw that these two seemed so good together, so comfortable and energetic and subconsciously drawn to each other that he thought a little nudging in the direction of love would go a long way, so it all started with nudging Brittany down the stairs. As we all know Ms. Self likes her high heels, so Brittany was sashaying in her naturally graceful way down the hall when Taylor approaches. She automatically smiled and JJ (coming out of nowhere) tackled a baffled Brittany down the stairs. Ordinarily Brittany might have been able to handle this assault, however in this instance she was caught off

guard and in a state of complete and utter confusion. So Taylor, rushing to this Damsel's aid, did a double back flip (as he is known to do, he is in Dance West) and held his arms out as Brittany tumbled elegantly into his embrace. Obviously they are now head over heels for each other. Literally.

If that wasn't gooey enough for you, Cupid strikes again. This time he strikes the hearts of Melissa Bergeron. Melissa is the school sweetheart, this is common knowledge and since her part in the school production of Metamorphoses as Pamina (the cute nymph with a heart of gold) Sam Hadin has had an overly eager eye for her. However this time when JJ tried to put these two thespians together he had some complications. This time JJ decided to work more in use of aphrodisiacs than in use of violence. After JJ brought a piece of his special homemade chocolate to school he waited until Sam and Mel where in sight of each other and handed her the piece of chocolate. Mel immediately bit into the piece of chocolate and sighed with pleasure. JJ turned her gently in the direction of Sam when out of nowhere came Bailey Bushart, close friend and confidant of Melissa to give her friend a hug. Mel's eyes fell on the pretty strawberry blonde and became instantly smitten pledging her undying love. Sam was crestfallen and walked on his way. JJ realized he had done something inexplicably wrong and tried to amend the situation. A very confused Bailey asked her friend if this were joke or jest and when Melissa replied that she was very serious, Bailey went on to explain her deep affection for her boyfriend.

Mel obviously stormed off in a jealous rage. JJ tried to think of a way to fix what he had so hopelessly muddled up. There had to be something to reverse the aphrodisiac he had created. Then it came to him! The school water. He grabbed Mel's water bottle and filled it with the water of questionable clarity, then thrust it into Mel's hands, urging her to drink. Mel drank deeply through her unhappiness and quickly came out of her Valentines stupor. However the Melissa/ Sam romance is still on the outs I hear, so any help to fulfill Sam's dreams would be appreciated I'm sure.

What this gossip columnist would like to know is who does Cupid have his eye on? Oh well, time will tell, and when the time comes, so will I.

Artist of the Month:

Cooper Morgan

Sara Gally, Senior

Your focus at ACMA is Theater right? Yes

I walked in to an ensemble class during a serious discussion and it looked like you were playing a large role in directing the conversation...

would you say that she plays a large roll in the things you care about and fight for today?

Defiantly, my mom has taught me the importance of everything I fight for and everything I care about, my mom has taught me to care period. Its up to me what I want to care about and I know that, but she taught me about compassion and integrity and honesty and speaking my mind.

If you could have one super power what would it be?

(he laughs) I think it might be kind of wrong, but, I would like to, have the power of influence. No, not the power of influence, the power to educate everyone. Because I feel like there are a lot of things that I am aware of that other people might not be. However just the same I'd wish that same super power for every one else.

Any thing you'd like to say?

I know many people at this school think about the well being of our school and I cant emphasis enough the importance of voicing those concerns. Whether its to one person or one hundred people, everyone need to be aware

Who would you like to see as the artist of the month in the next issue?

Katie Longua



Photographer
Sara Gally

I wanted to address the idea that the ACMA acting ensemble has been falling apart. And I wanted to start you know a conversation about that to not only get other peoples ideas but also to tell them what I feel about every thing falling apart, and what I feel we can do to you know bring back the feeling of an ensemble.

What has made it obvious to you that it has been falling apart?

Any time we try to organize a group project or any thing even as simple as a reading is interrupted time and time again by people who are uninterested and unfocused.

How long have you been in theater ensemble?

Two years , well last year and this year so one and half years so far.

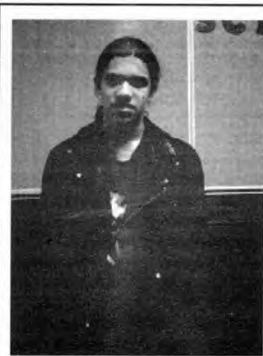
If you could give any advice to ensemble or other actors what would it be?

I'd tell them that if they don't protect their artistic focus from the selfish and uninterested, no one will.

I know you and your mom are close



Photographer
Tiffany Pierson



Photographer
Tiffany Pierson

ACMA Fashion

Tiffany Pierson , Sophomore

Students at ACMA wear clothes you'd be unlikely to see anywhere else but here. This thought struck me when my sister refused to go to the movies with my family while I was wearing what she described as a "costume." I looked in the mirror at my stripped stockings and hat with an attacked veil and feather. "What wrong with this?"

We're artists and carry self-expression over into many areas of our lives. This article is here to glorify the individuality of our students within our school newspaper. Running around the school in the morning, I asked random people "Would you like to be in Savant?" Despite their sudden self-consciousness, all the people I approached answered "Yes."

Lissa Beadle: Lissa favors the layered, gypsy look.

Jordan Halmark: Jordan wears black leather. Everything about him screams "I'd be found playing the guitar in a coffee shop."

Brittney Reume: Brittney's white cloth shoes were intricately colored by Caitlyn Purple.

Brianna Bell: Brianna pairs tank tops with lace.

Galen Hefferman: Galen wears a top hat and tie together in a punk combo.

Holly: Holly isn't afraid to wear multicolored knee socks together with a sailor sweater. She favors the contemporary Japanese look.

Ainsley: Ainsley wears clothes with a lot of texture.

Emily: Emily's necklace is part of her shirt.



Photographer
Tiffany Pierson



Photographer
Tiffany Pierson



Photographer
Tiffany Pierson

Dating from a Teen

Alysha Kunkel, Sophomore

If there is one thing in this world that I agree with, it would be what David Grossman, a philosopher and writer, had to say about 'kids' dating. What he wrote in one of his papers was that the general trend for today's "young" children was to date earlier than in most previous generations. He further stated that the media contributes to this trend by exposing them to things that only married people saw a generation before. Also, kids these days are becoming more physically mature at an earlier age which brings up hormonal changes early as well. We have a lot of reasons "why" kids are dating

earlier but it seems to me as if we should be asking if they're ready to start dating.

I know that I hear gossip on the bus from middle school students about this girl dating that guy or did you see that kiss in the hallway

today, even absurd sexual comments and innuendo that is definitely not appropriate coming from a sixth or seventh grader. Controversial "readiness" tests have been used for decades in order to determine whether children approaching first grade could carry out school activities properly. Is there any way to extend that trend to dating, and is there really a "right" time to begin dating? A sophomore at Arts and Communications stated that he didn't know when people should start dating but he did believe that maturity was the first step.

Personally I believe that a person is ready when they can handle the range of emotions that a relationship brings. Dating should be taken seriously, but not too seriously. Make sure you are ready for a relationship and be clear about why you want to date. Are you ready to be honest with the people you go out with and are you ready for them to be honest with you? I suppose no one is ever really ready to date, its mostly based on how we feel about it, how our culture looks at it, how are religion plays into it and of course, what our parents say.

But again, how do we know if we are truly ready?

Does being ready just mean that both sides are interested in each other romantically? Or does it mean that they are finally ready for their first kiss? Perhaps its just because everyone else seems to be doing it.

Kids need to be able to realize what is harmful and what isn't. Nick Klinke, a junior at a

local Seattle High school commented that, [kids] need to have the decision making skills to realize if a situation is bad," and with that I totally agree. Comfort is a big issue as is safety but if you are not mature enough to realize when you are in a bad situation then how can you truly be ready for the dating world? Are the young people of America starting to date too early? If so, will that mean that they will start to have sex at an earlier age as well? Being ready really only means that you are comfortable with yourself and know what you are doing.



ACMA's Token Couple
Photographer, Alysha Kunkel

!! SUBMIT YOUR WORK!!

●●●Effigy needs●●●

*Your name, grade, Ohana teacher and name of piece.

*For music or any computer multimedia submissions, submit on cd.

●●●Submit it!●●●

By Effigy- boxes in library and art room

Online at- acmaeffigy@yahoo.com

●●●The Requirements●●●

*If piece of art work is a drawing, painting or photo, place in effigy box.

*If too scared we will break your ceramic, sculpture, mask type artwork, talk to Ms.

Orourke and she will set up a photo date with an Effigy staff member.

!!*FINAL SUBMISSION DAY MARCH 20*!!

Garden of Rhythm and Rhyme

A Muse to Love J.A. Conner

Inspired artist inside me flourish not.
Faltering ideas flutter, drifting down
A tapestry torn; stories flail uncaught.
Barren my heart beats a rhythmless frown.

Que. imagination; palette in hand.
Prepared speech - words slipping from my lip.
Floating away precious moments uncanned
Beautiful masterpiece I can not primp.

Decadent stylus I can not posses.
Pleading charisma to spread around.
True creative minds boggle my fortress
Will thoughts ignition cause my heart to pound.

May love be a muse for art that hides
As my vision flows through you I'll confide.

Haiku

Sara Gally
He pretended to
sort of faint. Yes I was on
a stage and I didn't



Dock
Photographer, Sara Gally, Senior

A Whispers Importance Jeanette Conner

I have wished to hear serenity's silence
A void compensation for noise absent
Sound-oholics never allow quiet a chance

Knowing the sweet chipperness at first glance
I grew respect for a deft empty dent
I have wished to hear serenity's silence

Culture stabs sound's purity with a blunt lance
utterly crazed to be un-calm you're bent
Sound-oholics never allow quiet a chance

Life disrupts with such precise persistence
From numbed buzzing can speechlessness be lent?
I have wished to hear serenity's silence

Please listen, hush, do not be an offense
All you are capable of is to vent
Sound-oholics never allow quiet a chance

Grasp towards peace and assist beating drums
Give me mute melody; whispers I'll have lent
For I've wished to hear serenity's silence
Sound-oholics, you'll give quiet a chance?

Cry

Luke Oskierko

Why don't you cry
You've been hurt so many times before
You're livin' a lie
Don't hold your tears in anymore
Why don't you cry
Show your emotion
Now is the time
After all of your devotion
Why don't you cry
You've got to try
Let go and love again
Before you die



Dew Apples
Photographer, Jeanett Conner, Sophmore

Thinning Garden? An explanation By Sara Gally, Senior Editor

Have you ever noticed that most of the submissions within the Garden of Rhythm and Rhyme are from a few key suspects? Not to drop names or anything, but I see Jeanette Conner, Michelle Escobar, Zach B.K., Jibid Bulgan, and my own name on this page quite a bit. Now, I've been at ACMA for the past four years, and I'm pretty sure that there are more photographers, writers, and other visual artists out there than these select few. The only problem being, is that no one submits their art work to Savant.

Maybe you don't know that all art work submitted to Savant is eligible to be published in our schools time honored (when printed) collection of student art entitled, Effigy. Maybe you didn't know that you could submit, or maybe you are just a little on the lazy side.

Ladies and gentlemen, we have seen the death of a great Savant tradition, the Funny Page, and it was murdered by the cold killing hands of ACMA students who don't care about their schools newspaper enough to submit their brilliant work. The Garden of R&R is knocking on deaths door with the same symptoms in hand. However, there is a way to stop this!

You, yes you, sitting there in your class thankful to have a Savant in hand instead of listening to your teacher. Or you, the one who gives a little sigh or yelp of joy when Alysha and myself waltz into your classroom with a stack full of our beloved Savants. Or even you, the one who won't recycle this, and probably wont even read it until the person next to you points out this description and how it fits you to a tee.

Submit, your art work, your poetry, photographs, your comic, your limerick, your opinion on an article we printed. If you don't like it, let us know in an articulate manner. Heck even if you do like it let us know! If you have a great idea for an article and wish you were in publications so that you could write it, guess what, you don't have to take the whole class to write something for the newspaper!

Here is our e-mail address, keep it close and safe if ever you need it, we are always here to listen :).



Venice
Photographer, Alex Sorenson, Junior

February Recipes

For the Easy Baker

Double-Decker Confetti Brownies

Makes 24 brownies – Baking Time 25-30 minutes

Ingredients:

3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter or margarine, softened
1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
3 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, divided
2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1 tablespoon butter or margarine, melted
1 cup "M&M's" Semi-Sweet Chocolate Mini Baking Bits, divided

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°
2. Lightly grease 13x9x2-inch baking pan; set aside.
3. In large bowl, cream 3/4 cup butter and sugars until light and fluffy; beat in eggs and vanilla.
4. In medium bowl, combine 2 1/4 cups flour, baking powder and salt; blend into creamed mixture.
5. Divide batter in half.
6. Blend together cocoa powder and melted butter; stir one into one half of the dough.
7. Spread cocoa dough evenly into prepared baking pan.
8. Stir remaining 1/4 cup flour and 1/2 cup "M&M's" Semi-Sweet Chocolate Mini Baking Bits.
9. Bake 25 to 30 minutes or until edges start to pull away from sides of pan.
10. Cool completely.

TIP: For neat slices, turn cooled brownies upside down onto a cutting board-the top doesn't crumble when the bars are cut from the bottom.

RATING: 2.5 out of 5 stars!



For the Easy Baker with Flair

Chocolate Pudding

Serves 4 – Preparation Time 10 minutes – Baking Time 10 minutes

Ingredients:

2 egg whites
2/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
2 tablespoons cornstarch
2 1/4 cups skim milk, divided
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/8 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
Fresh strawberries, mint leaves, and unsweetened cocoa powder for garnish

Directions:

1. In a small bowl, lightly beat egg whites and set aside.
2. In a large bowl, combine 2/3 cup of cocoa and cornstarch. Whisk 3/4 cup of milk into cocoa mixture until completely smooth.
3. In a large heavy saucepan, combine remaining milk, sugar, and salt. Mix well.
4. Bring to boil over high heat, whisking constantly. Remove pan from heat.
5. Whisk cocoa mixture into hot milk mixture. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat; boil for 2 minutes, whisking constantly. Remove pan from heat.

Alysha Kunkel, Sophomore

6. Gradually whisk 1 cup of hot cocoa mixture into the egg whites and pour mixture back into pan.
 7. Cook over medium-low heat for 2 minutes, whisking constantly. Do not boil. Remove pan from heat.
 8. Add vanilla; blend well.
 9. Pour pudding into serving dishes and cool to room temperature.
 10. Cover and chill for one hour. Garnish with berries, mint leaves, and cocoa.
- TIP: To prevent pudding "skin," transfer hot pudding to a bowl or serving dishes, lay a sheet of waxed paper directly on pudding surface. Cool as directed.

RATING: 3.5 out of 5 stars!

For the Mediocre Baker

Fudgy Chocolate Layer Cake

Makes 8 servings – Preparation Time 20 minutes – Baking Time 25-30 minutes

Ingredients:

3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter
2 squares (2 ounces) unsweetened chocolate
2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
2 cups sugar
1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon salt
1 3/4 cups buttermilk
2 eggs, at room temperature
3/4 cup whipping cream
1 1/2 cups semisweet chocolate chips

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°.
2. Grease and flour two 9-inch round cake pans.
3. In a saucepan, melt butter and chocolate, stirring, over low heat.
4. Combine flour, sugar, cocoa, baking soda and salt in a large bowl of an electric mixer.
5. Add chocolate mixture, buttermilk, and eggs. Beat on low speed for 1 minute; increase speed to high and beat until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes.
6. Divide batter between cake pans. Bake until cake springs back when gently pressed, 25-30 minutes.
7. Cool in pans 5 minutes; invert onto wire rack.
8. Meanwhile, bring cream just to a boil. Remove from heat and stir in chocolate chips; mix until frosting is smooth and starts to thicken.
9. Place 1 cooled layer on cake plate. Spread with 1/3 cup frosting.
10. Top with second layer. Frost top and side of cake with remaining frosting.

TIP: You can also melt the butter and chocolate by combining them in a small glass dish and microwaving on HIGH for 1-2 minutes.

RATING: 5 out of 5 stars!

For the Mediocre Baker with Flair

Chocolate Turtle Cheesecake

Serves 12 – Preparation Time 30 minutes – Baking Time 5 minutes

Ingredients:

1 (7 ounce) package caramels
1/4 cup evaporated milk
3/4 cup chopped pecans, divided
1 (9-inch) chocolate crumb pie crust
2 (3-ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup sour cream
1 1/4 cups milk
1 (3.9-ounce) package chocolate instant pud-



ding mix
1/2 cup fudge topping

Directions:

1. Place caramels and evaporated milk in a heavy saucepan.
2. Heat over medium-low heat, stirring continually, until smooth, about 5 minutes.
3. Stir in 1/2 cup chopped pecans. Pour into pie crust.
4. Combine cream cheese, sour cream and milk into a blender.
5. Add pudding mix; process for about 30 seconds longer.
6. Pour pudding mixture over caramel layer, covering evenly.
7. Chill, loosely covered, until set, about 15 minutes.
8. Drizzle fudge topping over pudding layer in a decorative pattern.
9. Sprinkle top of cake with remaining pecans.
10. Chill, loosely covered, until serving time.

TIP: Looking for a quick way to drizzle the fudge topping? Put it in a resealable plastic bag, snip off a corner of the bag, then pipe the topping over the pudding layer.

RATING: 3 out of 5 stars.

Advanced Baker

Miniature Chocolate Confection Cupcakes

Makes 36 cupcakes

Ingredients:

1/2 cup heavy cream
2-4 cardamom pods
1 strip orange rind
1 cinnamon stick
8 ounce fine-quality bittersweet chocolate
4 T. (1/2 stick) unsalted butter
2-3 tablespoons cream liqueur
3 dozen foil candy cups
3 slices candied orange rind
1-2 tablespoons raw sugar

Directions:

1. Bring cream, cardamom, orange rind, and cinnamon stick to boil.

2. Remove from heat and let steep. Remove spices.
3. With a clean, dry, sharp knife chop chocolate into small pieces.
4. Add to warm cream; whisk until blended.
5. Set aside chocolate mixture to cool to room temperature (about 2 hours), stirring occasionally.
6. Add butter and liqueur to chocolate; beat with hand-held mixer until well blended and smooth.
7. Spoon chocolate mixture into pastry bag fitted with small star tip; pipe into foil candy cups.
8. Finely chop candied orange rind.
9. Garnish each confection with bits of rind, then sprinkle with raw sugar.
10. Refrigerate until ready to serve.



TIPS:

*After bringing the heavy cream and spices to a boil, remove the pan from the heat and let the mixture steep 10 to 20 minutes to achieve the fullest flavor, then remove and discard the spices.
*Use a fine-quality chocolate with high cocoa butter content. If the cream has cooled too much to melt the chopped chocolate, return the pan to low heat and stir until the chocolate has melted and the mixture is smooth.
*As an alternative to candied orange rind, garnish each chocolate cup with a whole almond and omit the sugar.
*Because these confections are so rich, they must be stored in the refrigerator until just before serving.

RATING: 5 out of 5 stars!

Restaurant Review

The Melting Pot of Yummy Yummy Goodness

Ashley Lee, Junior

This avid food junkie often wonders when a restaurant that displeases the soul will come along and scare the living bejesus out of her. Well, I am delighted to say that the Melting Pot is not that restaurant.

The atmosphere is that of a fondue place with a ritzy wine-ish feel but don't let that scare you non-alcoholic, under-the-age-of-thirty kids. Just because you're young does not mean you need to miss out on one of life's most delectable gifts. Yes, the servers are a bit on the condescending side and the wait to order was a bit long, but what really made up for it was the consumption. Minutes after I ordered, a tray with all the ingredients to make fondue was put inside the ready and waiting stove on the table. Yes they have marble tables with heated centers and fondue pots on top. Accompanying my Traditional Swiss Cheese Fondue was an array of fresh breads, apples and vegetables (the apples and bread taste the best). And away I went with my handy forked fondue stick thingy, half the fun is getting to use your utensil. Dripping cheese, by the way, is very easy to get all over your table, but who's watching?

And once you're sated with the first course, be prepared to use that other forked-thingy-utensil because no one is allowed to leave (by my rules) without trying one of the Melting Pot's chocolate fondues. I played by the rules and ordered the Chocolate S'more, "Milk Chocolate fondue topped with marshmallow cream, flambeed to toast the marshmallow and than garnished with crushed Grahm crackers." Its simple, if cheese is not for you, there is a fifty fifty chance chocolate is, so do not miss out on the whole shabang, go for the one you like.

Rating: 8.34 (points off for having a stuffy staff)

Price Range: Cheese \$14 for 2 add another person for \$7. Chocolate \$14-26

Downtown at the corner of SW Sixth Avenue & Main Street 97204

Phone: (503) 517-8960 [Fax]: (503) 517-8962



Book Reviews

Hillary Marler, Junior

1. **The Princess Bride** by William Goldman - 'S Morgenstern's Classic Tale of True Love and High Adventure' is filled with brave pirates, exhilarating battles, unexpected magic, miracle men, rodents of unusual size and, of course, the greatest kiss that ever was, is, or will be. (5/5 stars)

2. **The Time Traveler's Wife** by Audrey Niffenegger - Henry De Tamble, an easygoing Chicago librarian and his wife Claire, an aspiring artist, seem to have as normal a relationship as any couple. But, thanks to a few genetic variations in Henry's DNA, he is faced with a rare disease "Chrono Displacement Disorder" which causes him to disappear at random times in his life and appear at some point in his past or future, usually around an important person or event in his life. After nearly 20 years of marriage to Claire, his time travels take him back in time to meet her as a child and he views memories she had all her life. But ones he is beginning to experience. (4/5)

3. **Someone to Run With** by David Grossman - This Israeli bestseller is about a painfully shy and socially awkward sixteen year old boy named Assaf and his quest to find the owner of a stray yellow Labrador in his home city of Jerusalem. Meanwhile, on the other side of the city a lonely singer, a girl named Tamar, is struggling to find her brother, a way to make a living, and eventually her beloved dog. (4/5 stars)

4. **A Fine and Private Place** by Peter S. Beagle - Mr. Rebeck lives in the cemetery. It's not as bad as it might seem at first glance, a raven brings him food and he occasionally he has ghostly company of those recently buried. Normally, these souls linger for a while and then fade slowly away, but what happens when two of them fall in love? (4/5)

5. **Fire and Hemlock** by Diane Wynne Jones - When Polly finds a mysterious photograph of herself with a mysterious man she has no recollection of, she becomes confused; but then forgotten memories start returning, memories of a relationship with Thomas Lynn. Even though she tries to remember as hard as she can, certain memories seem to be blocked, or even erased from her mind. Will she remember in time to save him? (4/5)

6. **Under a Different Sky** by Deborah Savage - After being expelled from all other schools, Lara Morath arrives at her new boarding school determined to get in trouble as quickly as possible. Her plan does not include making friends of any sort. But all of that changes when she meets Ben, a boy who lives on a neighboring farm and his charming Appaloosa stallion, Galaxy. Amazed by Ben and Galaxy's innate talent at the intricate equestrian sport of dressage, she reluctantly agrees to help Ben achieve his dream of competing with Galaxy in professional horse shows. (3/5)

7. **Stardust** by Neil Gaiman and Charles Vess - This charming fairy tale follows Tristan Thorn on his adventures in the land of Faerie as he attempts to retrieve a fallen star for his beloved. Through his adventures with gangs of goblins and talking animals, Tristan quickly learns there is more to love than "happily ever after." (3/5)

8. **Son of the Mob** by Gordon Korman - A retelling of the well known story of Romeo and Juliet. As the son of a Mob boss, Vince's life has never been easy. He manages to take it all in stride, even being put in jail on his 16th birthday because his "present" a new Porsche was actually stolen property. But when he meets Kendra, who just happens to be the daughter of an FBI agent determined to convict any and all members of Vince's family, things get even more complicated. (2/5 stars)

9. **The Sterkarm Handshake** by Susan Price - Time travelers from the 21st century have found a way to enter the 16th century. Calling themselves "Elves" and presenting themselves as supernatural beings, the time travelers care only about the goods they can buy and steal from the Sterkarm clan. However, anthropologist Andrea Mitchell quickly begins to respect and befriend the Sterkarms. Honored as the beautiful "Elf-May" and in love with the a young Sterkarm warrior named Per, it seems as though Andrea may never want to go back to her own time. (2/5)

10. **This Lullaby** by Sarah Dessen - The only typical "teen romance" on the list, this book features the all too predictable "opposites attract" formula as it follows the relationship of control freak Remy and Dexter the slob. Fortunately, Dessen's writing style is fluid and lyrical, making this a bearable, although not very enjoyable read. (1/5 stars)

Movie Reviews

Alysha Kunkel, Sophomore

Memoirs of a Geisha (PG13)

Memoirs of a Geisha is a film about Japan, made mostly by Americans, shot mostly in the U.S. and whose key characters are played by Chinese women. Yet once the film begins all of these trivial matters seem to disintegrate as the audience is plunged into a dramatic romance, set in the late 1920's. It is about a Japanese girl sold into slavery to an Okiya who then later becomes one of the greatest Geishas of her time. This 145 minute film is a stunning coming of age story that is both exotic and universal. Starring Ziyi Zhang as the main character, Sayuri, it is a classic tale of forbidden love; a world of women who may never pursue their own happiness.

This is much more than a "chick flick"; it is an elegant dance through a part of Japanese history - though all of the details may not be historically correct - and is an outstanding film with amazing acting. The masterful artistry of acting in this film astounded me as I could feel the tension, the grief, the love, and the pity experienced by the individual characters. I realize that my thoughts and beliefs concerning this film are completely irrelevant to anyone but myself, but as a reviewer I think it is my duty to say that *Memoirs of a Geisha* is probably one of the best box office hits I have seen in some time.

Rating: PG13 for sexual situations and violence

Running Length: 2 hours and 25 minutes

Director: Rob Marshall

Cast: Ziyi Zhang (Sayuri), Ken Watanabe (The Chairman), Michelle Yeoh (Mameha), Koji Yakusho (Nobu), Gong Li (Hatsumomo), and Youki Kudo (Pumpkin).

MY RATING: 4.75 out of a total 5 stars

Corpse Bride (PG)

Set in a 19th century European village, this would be ghoulish view of a corpse bride is really a tale of optimism and romance. Tim Burton has once again done a spectacular job portraying his creativity and genius by following the story of Victor Van Dort (Johnny Depp), a young groom with fears of marriage. In the midst of practicing his vows in the woods he accidentally marries a corpse bride (Helena Bonham Carter) and is whisked away into the underworld - a "lively" place with colorful people.

While Burton's artistic style is obviously similar to that of his last stop-motion animation movie, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, the characters we encounter in this film are all new including a band of skeletons who perform jazz, a maggot who speaks his mind, a "head" waiter and of course the "upstairs" residents otherwise known as the living.

Rating: PG for some scary images and action as well as brief mild language

Running Length: 1 hour and 16 minutes

Director: Tim Burton and Mike Johnson

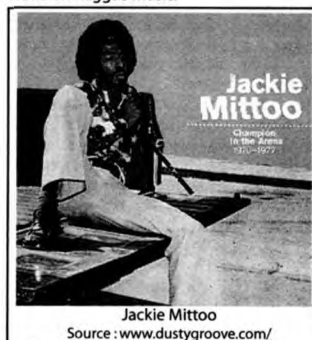
Voice Cast: Johnny Depp (Victor Van Dort), Helena Bonham (Corpse Bride), Emily Watson (Victoria Everglot), Christopher Lee (Pastor Galswells), Albert Finney (Finnis Everglot), Joanna Lumley (Maudeline Everglot), and Richard E. Grant (Lord Barkis)

MY RATING: 4 out of a total of 5 stars

"The Reggae Beat"

Lavi Hendin, Senior

There are many people that say that Reggae music is just the same old beat over and over and over again. But let me tell you that what you think is just your opinion. All I am going to do is just try to change your opinion and views on Reggae music.



Jackie Mittoo
Source: www.dustygroove.com/

First of all, the origins of Reggae are from our very own country. The "reggae beat" as many people called it, originates from the rhythm'n/blues jazz of New Orleans in the early 1960's. The first big person in reggae was Jackie Mittoo. Mittoo turned the ska beat into reggae with the help of drummer Lloyd

Nibbs. By the late 1960's reggae was already being played on the radio in the UK. I think I have already stated many reasons why you should be listening to reggae.

Now, some of are probably saying that all the Reggae is, is the same old beat over and over again. Listen to Steel Pulse. The songs vary. Listen to Matisyahu. Same thing. I could go on naming many bands in the reggae that are like that.

It is now time for me to discuss the most important thing about Reggae. The feel of the music. I think that if you are looking at Reggae in a way as to think that once again, the music repeats. Than, you aren't looking at the real world. The real world would look at this music as an amazing wealth of knowledge about what goes on in Jamaica.

Yes, I am basically saying that reggae is a great form of music. If your ideas about reggae have been turned around by my comments than hear are a couple of bands that you should check out. For one, Bob Marley, the king of reggae according to many many people. Toots and the Maytals, they are considered by many to be second to Bob Marley. The Gladiators, to reviewers, are considered the second. One of the original reggae dudes, Jimmy Cliff. Steel Pulse, Israel Vibration, the Congos.

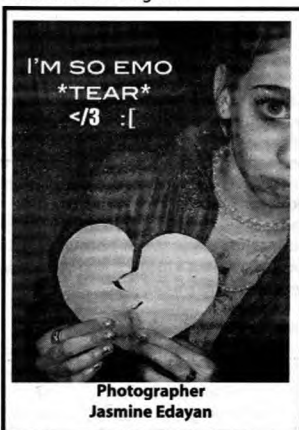
Valentines Day

Jared Ridabock

It's that time of the year again. The time of year where unintelligible creatures walk around talking about how either they can't wait for Valentines day or how badly they dread it's coming. Valentines day is stupid, and this 'opinion' is not that of a jaded romantic, but rather a man of science. In fact it is not an opinion at all, it is a fact!

Either way the emotional investments people put in this day are actually ridiculous. Sorry you don't have a boyfriend. Sorry no one bought you chocolate. Sorry no one bought you diamonds. Sorry no one bought you perfume. Sorry you got dumped. Guess what... it's just another day. No one buys you chocolate EVER. No one buys you diamonds EVER. No one buys you perfume EVER. You don't have a boyfriend EVER. If you have a mate you'll get dumped... EVER. Why throw a huge fit about it now? Why? Because you're a baby.

It's after all this I always see a bunch of stupid kids around school talking about how sad they are or posting stuff about it all over the internet. Guess what? NOBODY CARES! Your parents don't care, your friends don't care, and there is no way the person that rejected you does. Pick up the shards of your broken heart and deal with it. Your pathetic life will move past it faster than you could bear to imagine.



Photographer
Jasmine Edayan

L♥VE TIPS

from Savant



When trying to get the special someone of your dreams remember, it is not better to be yourself. Keep all of your weird quirky habits in the closet... until after the relationship is somewhat cemented, because they will be sure to drive your special someone away. Do you think that the hottie you've had your eye on wants to know that you like to eat grapes with your toes? Or that your crush or 2 and a half years wants to know about your secret shrine to Spongebob that you have in your closet?

Well they don't, so just leave well enough alone, or you will be alone. FOREVER.



If your date is vegetarian, don't under any circumstances order the "meat lover's dish," especially if she's just about to talk about her criminal record breaking kittens out of research labs.



Be confident. If you think you look good, you look good. If you think you're ugly and pathetic, you are ugly and pathetic.



When going out to a fancy restrant on Valentines day, ask for a table for two and say 'My date will be here soon.'

Order for yourself, and that way people just think you may of gotten stood up.



When planing that special Valentines dinner for one remember, he be cheating with your sister anyway.



When they tear your heart into little pieces and use it for confetti, just think of me and remember you are not alone. You can join me in the wonderful experience of bitterly watching sad romance films over a pint of Ben and Jerry's while crying over the fact that Rose actually let go of Jack's hand.



If u lYKE a bOi.<3
Buy him A nEW Toy.
it WiLL brlnG him jOY:D
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Dr. Seuss, You're How Old?

by Sara Gally, Senior

Who is Dr. Seuss, we've all read his books, but do we know who the man behind the rhyme is? I visited a nifty little web site to find out just for you, our readers, in light of his up and coming birthday. If you would like a peak of your own for more Seuss style surfing, go to www.seussville.com.

Childhood

Yes, there really was a Dr. Seuss. He was not an official doctor, but his prescription for fun has delighted readers for more than 60 years. Theodor ("Ted") Seuss Geisel was born on March 2, 1904, in Springfield, Massachusetts. His father, Theodor Robert, and grandfather were brewmasters and enjoyed great financial success for many years. Coupling the continual threats of Prohibition and World War I, the German-immigrant Geisels were targets for many slurs, particularly with regard to their heritage and livelihoods. In response, they were active participants in the pro-America campaign of World War I. Thus, Ted and his sister Marnie overcame such ridicule and became popular teenagers involved in many different activities. Despite some financial hardship the Geisels encountered due to Prohibition, Ted enjoyed a fairly happy childhood. His parents were strict, but very loving. His mother, Henrietta Seuss Geisel, had worked in her father's bakery before marrying Ted's father, often memorizing the names of the pies that were on special each day and 'chanting' them to her customers. If Ted had difficulty getting to sleep, she would often recall her 'pie-selling chants.' As an adult, Ted credited his mother "for the rhythms in which I write and the urgency with which I do it."

Art

A doodler at heart, Ted often remarked—with a twinkle in his eye—that he never really learned to draw. His school notebooks often included bizarre creatures that framed sporadic notes he had taken in class. While his work is very distinct to adults and children, Janet Schulman—his editor for the last 11 years of his life—admits that he despised when his writing and illustrations were referred to as "whimsical."

Ted was also very, very particular about color. According to Cathy Goldsmith, his art director from 1980 through 1991, his sense of color was very idiosyncratic (which means the colors he used were very distinctly and recognizably 'Seuss').

His paintings might not have been considered serious by critics' standards, but Ted took his painting very seriously—it relaxed him. Using watercolor, gouache, ink, or casein, Ted would create vivid scenes with skewed, nonsensical perspectives and images. He would often contrast bright colors against a much darker background, creating an illusion of the subject popping out of the painting. While he longed for critical recognition that he was an artist, Ted would not sell his paintings out of fear of critics' rejection.

When Ted needed to clear his thoughts or relieve a creative block, he often took an afternoon walk through his garden. Ted considered tending to his garden and trees another form of art, and when he worked in this "media," he created a soft, pastoral setting.

According to Ted, however, his greatest work wasn't a particular book or lavish gardens. It was the Lion Wading Pool at Wild Animal Park in San Diego, which he donated in 1973.

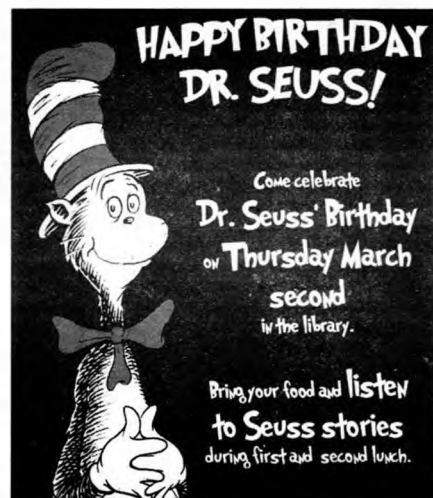
Issues/Opinions/Inspirations

Like most works of merit, the works of Dr. Seuss have been overanalyzed; many scholars have found devices where there are truly none to be found. For the most part, Ted enjoyed writing entertaining books that encouraged children to read. There are several—his later books, in particular—that were, in fact, inspired by current events or his own personal concerns. For example, Ted was upset about the billboards and construction that threatened his tranquil community of La Jolla. On a broader spectrum, however, Ted was concerned about the environment as a whole; he wanted manufacturers, businesses, and individuals to take responsibility for their actions. The Lorax, published in 1971, weaves a familiar tale of a good thing gone wrong: the irresponsible, ambitious Once-ler builds a huge, thriving business at the expense of Truffula trees and the creatures who depend on them. Ted remained true to the Seussian style, but still managed to shame the current generation and challenge the next generation by demonstrating the pitfalls of progress..

Incidentally, the question Ted dreaded most was the question he was asked most often: "Where do you get your ideas?" He

usually responded with a quip, most often Uber Gletch."

Dr. Seuss' birthday is just around the corner on March 2nd. If you are looking to celebrate the legacy of one of everyone's favorite childhood writer, come to the Library at lunch to listen to some of this classics read by fellow ACMA students. You can even go home and blow out a single candle on a cup cake and then eat it, if that isn't to horribly lonely for your style.



Birthday Poster by Lindall Robinson

Megan O'Doherty, Sophomore

Are you a hot relationship savvy vixen or a 40-year-old virgin in the making? After watching the movie "40-year-old virgin" I came to the conclusion that there are sure-fire ways of determining if that is going to be your future, or if you are a regular high-school Hugh Hefner. So I gathered my smarts on the are-you-hot-or-are-you-not symptoms and created this quiz for your enlightenment and enjoyment. Enjoy.

C. At home watching "Star Wars" and playing Halo while stroking your collectible figurines of Luke Skywalker and Chubaka. You also like to ride your bike... a lot.

C. Hopefully a "sex-starved" divorcee with two teen-age children and a low self-esteem.

C. Most likely to beat "Index" in Halo.

C. A nematoad. I love Biology, thanks Mr. V.

A. A bar, or maybe hooters.

C. Circuit City. I pass my cashier test nex

C. Valentines day? *gulp* Lord of the Rings marathon?
Some of the scenes I think really portray true love. Peter
Jackson is a genius.

B. Green. it's awesome

C. Slate gray, it goes with everything

A. Somewhere hot and exotic with a really good party scene!

B. Venice, Paris, somewhere classy and fun

C. Tillamook Cheese Factory, or Legoland, or both. That would be the ultimate vacation.

A. Rap or hip hop.

B. Rock or alternative.

C.L.O.T.R. soundtrack, or "Star Wars" soundtrack, I think that the music is very underrated.

Mostly A: If you chose mostly A, then you are a hot sexy single (or player) with an active personality and even more active life. You are as far from a 40-year-old virgin, or probably a virgin at all. Mostly you just scare me.

Mostly B: Your normal, normal and boring, you like long walks on the beach and intimate conversation with someone who has a lot of the same interests as you. Your me, congratulations.

Mostly C: You are the unfortunate loser I made this quiz for. You are the halo geek that lurks in the corner of my Algebra class and the LOTR's fanatic hiding under the VHL loving exterior. Or maybe you don't hide your virginess, maybe you are a dork and you let everyone know it, in which case, good for you. Your not getting any, but good for you.

Jasmine Edavan

Anyone can get on a computer nowadays, type in "emo" on google and be supplied with endless comments on how to sustain the perfect "emo look."

The outbreak of emoness erupted in the year of 2004 at ACMA but has been around for many of years. Emo- simply meaning "emotional"-is tied in with the superficiality of "emotional and depressed heart broken kids."

But what does it mean to be emo? What does it mean to be called emo? And what exactly is "emo"?

Sources tell me that “emo” is the kid in the back of the class room with thick rimmed glasses, skin tight girl pants, kid sized shirts (usually with a 70’s or 80’s logo), heavy eye liner, sporting a classically color co-ordinated scarf. “Emo” is thought of as the ‘anorexic looking’ kid who appears “too sad to be able to eat,” and is suffering from severe heart break. “Emo” however has quickly developed in time as “the depressed popular kids” in school that like to pose the “emo style.”

Although sources may seem a little too vague, merely focusing on the aesthetic appeal of emonosity; the "emo look" that meets the eye is hardly unrecognizable. One who is comfortable enough to show the world their inner pain as well as their outer pain falls close to meeting with the school psychologist.

But, for those of you who might have not been aware, the term "emo" was originally known as a type of music derived from the early '80s hardcore theme. Further studies have

shown emo as the "emotions" of a more restrained and repressive vulnerability. Basically, one who can control their 'pain' in a calm and 'depressive' manner.

The web site "2-3. What is emo?" does a good job digging into the historical past of "emomess" and even so, provides readers with the humorous view of emotionality as well. A direct quote from the web site reads:

"OK, for real, **THIS** is my understanding and how my friends and I use this helpful term every day:

1) EMO is an abbreviation of EMOTIONAL.

2) As such, it can (and I think originally was used to) describe a style of music.

3) The EMO "SOUND" of minimalist drums & guitars, quiet singing building up to a loud screaming racket. There can be a major jazz influence.

4) Anyone can be emo now. Morrissey, The Cure, Fugazi, Endpoint, you name it, they've been labeled "emo" (sinatra).

Emo music has recognized lyrics that impose the 'inner demons' of a personal defeat, love loss and heartache. As of the outside world, Emo is witnessed as portraying emotional displays of 'weakness.'

It is up to ACMA (more like students who go here) to make a decision if whether they want to idolize such an emotional theme. How do you view this depressing scene?

Things That I Think Are Neat But It's Okay If You Don't Think They're Neat

By Bailey Applehart, Junior - word

This is column number two. Just in case you lost count

Okay, you know what's pretty really awesome in my book? Cirque Du Soleil (Surk-de Sole-eh for those of you who don't speak the French). At first I hated it because it's a lot like the circus, but then I watched it on TV and Spencer P. wouldn't shut up about it so I was just like "OKAY! WHATEVER!! IT'S REALLY FREAKING AMAZING!! I GET IT!!" Then I did a little research on all of the people in it and there's this Russian gymnast and he's waaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa hot. I'm serious. He's like... When you have a hot pocket and you just took it out of the microwave and you know it's really hot but you're like "It's not that hot," so you take a bite and do that thing where you're chewing but you keep your mouth open and take big breaths and look like a total idiot. He's that hot. He does this thing in the show where he's in this net and it's really cool, but also a little creepy. If you really think about it Cirque Du Soleil is such an amazing group of people. They're from all over the world, they're all amazingly flexible and they do really weird stuff. Even if you don't like the show itself, the choreography is so amazing. True story.

Oh god. Water is delicious. I wish I was drinking some right now instead

of writing this article (not that I'm not enjoying writing this or anything). Actually, when you read this I'll probably be doing something completely different. Maybe I'm drinking water (ooooooooohhhh yeeeeee-aaaaahhhhhhh). Maybe I'm flying in a helicopter to Mt. Saint Helen's because the scientists that check on it were like "Oh man, we should have Bailey come look at this." Or maybe I'm just sitting around, eating an apple, or perhaps a can of beans (I wouldn't ever do that though). Actually you know, maybe I'm riding a bike. A BIKE THAT I STOLE FROM YOU JUST A SECOND AGO WHEN I WAS TALKING ABOUT THE BEANS!!!! *Cue escaping music* BAHAAH-AH-AH-AH.



Source: Internet

Gots and Wants

You: Single, White, Male, young, 6'2", 180lbs, adventurous, cute and able to operate a blender.

Me: Single, White, ?, 6'3", 430lbs, quiet, I'll supply the babies.

Contact: Tigerz4Eva@yahoo.com

Cutie Seeking Home

I am in possession of a tame fire-breathing hamster. Needs little attention, but don't completely ignore him, after a few days he gets lonely and will torch everything in your house. You will love how cute he is when he hiccups.

Must own fire extinguisher

Contact: Burnt-To-A-Crisp

I am looking for a miniature elephant I can fit in my hand and that eats only carrots. It should be mild tempered and trainable so I can put it in my circus of miniature show animals. If anyone has this breed of miniature elephant give me a call at 555-WARD and ask for Edweena.

WANTED: A CUDDLE BUDDY

Wanted a 15-17 year old male. Must be able to work every other weekend, some week nights, as well as during school hours if possible.

WARNING: Somewhat possessive, needy and clingy.

PAY: Candy, hugs, love, random little gifts and presents on birthdays and christmas.

Contact: Desperation at 503-332-3531

WANTED!

A person who will worship me ENDLESSLY like the goddess that I am. Must know my thoughts before I actually think them and be willing to sacrifice their still beating heart in my honor.

MUST NOT laugh at my attempts to take over the world armed only with a plastic spork. And if all else fails, I'd at least like a black teddy bear for Valentines Day.

Contact: Aleah at aleahsgarden@yahoo.com

I've got the most unbelievable rock band in the world. They are called *Senior-itis Is Killing Me*. They play music that tells how to use senior-itis to your advantage. You can have them for free if you can find me a cure for senior-itis.

Discount for the person who can make the first ever homework machine (that does the work for you). Once you give it to me, and IF IT WORKS, you'll get the band and their money manager.

Contact: Lavi "The man behind the disaster" Hendin

Wanted

New energy levels for homework, chores and other jobs a 16 year old girl should do. Must be good at guilt trips and causing ulcers.

No pay, no vacation, may rest on Saturday. Expect to spend many hours with mother.

Contact: Nica at flamefire159@comcast.net

Wanted

A fiery Irish thief with shoulder length hair that glistens like the evening sun but is slightly hidden when pulled back into a pony tail.

P.S I want the mask too.

Contact: Tonia at catsup2242@aol.com

UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Name: Jeremiah Kusak

Age: 43

Height: 5'1"

Weight: 199 Lbs.

Eye color: Brown

Hair color: Red

Looking for someone to massage my feet and earn my respect, I run a tight ship and I would prefer that you understand what you're getting into before passing into my possession. I would like two sons as well, so if you are unable to birth me two males then I have no need for you. No pets, I may amend this for our 50th anniversary but if you come with misconceptions of furry rabbits and yapping pomeranians then you had better get that out of your head. I do not like loud noise, or noise in general and I despise talking and listening, so neither will be tolerated.

Contact: Jeremiah Kusak 867-5309

Selling a beautiful carrot peeler. Slices generally on the carrot. Blade is remotely sharp, has seen many carrots in its day. Resulting carrots are good for soups, salads, on sandwiches, or anything that carrots can go in!

Contact: Fruit Lover at 555-9380

Girl seeking guy who will periodically place offerings before my "My Little Ponies" alter. Fetishes should include dressing up daschunds in tutus and pink wigs. No exceptions.

Contact: LittlePony@yahoo.com

Bad case of senior-itis for sale.
Size: Ginormous
Color: Black like my soul
Price: Sunshine and green fields to frolic in, or lots of late night with good friends.

Great Deal! Respond ASAP

Contact: Fairveronian@yahoo.com

WANTED:
Couples in the halls who are capable of not groping each other.

Did you know?

Leah Cato-Senior

A snail can sleep for three years.

* During your lifetime, you'll eat about 60,000 pounds of food; that's the weight of about 6 elephants.*

* Walt Disney, the creator of Mickey Mouse, was afraid of mice.*

Unlike dogs, pigs, and some other mammals, humans cannot taste water. They taste only the chemicals and impurities in the water.

* Termites eat wood twice as fast when listening to heavy metal music. (I wonder who was paid to figure that out!)

* The average human body contains enough fat to make seven bars of soap.*

* The Blue Whale's tongue weighs more than an adult elephant!*

* Females humans learn to talk earlier, use sentences earlier, and learn to read more quickly than males.*

* In Singapore, it is illegal to sell or own chewing gum. (That would suck for those oh us who are addicted to gum!)*

Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months, two rats could have over a million descendants. (AHHHHH, IT'S THE ATTACK OF THE MULTIFYING RATS!)

There have been over 7,200 acts of terrorism against the US over the last 15 years.

You inhale about 700,000 of your own skin flakes each day.

Leonardo da Vinci invented scissors. (Well thank you Mr. da Vinci!)

Most lipstick contains fish scales. (Keep that in mind when you are applying lipstick next time!)

When your face blushes, the lining of your stomach turns red, too.

World's heaviest primates: morbidly obese humans. After that: gorillas at 485 lbs.

All clams start out as males; some decide to become females at some point in their lives. (Now wouldn't that be cool if humans could do that?)

Jimi Hendrix, Janis Joplin, and Jim Morrison were all 27 years old when they died. :(

According to U.S. FDA standards, 1 cup of orange juice is allowed to contain 10 fruit fly eggs, but only 2 maggots. (Ummm, yeah...that's pretty gross)

In many countries, urine was used as a detergent for washing. (Their clothes probably don't smell very good)

The giant squid has the largest eyes in the world.

Brought to you by: -
<http://www.hookedonfacts.com/index.htm>

Did you Know?!!?



Q&A

Dear Genius,

What valentines card should I get the girl I like?
-Inexperienced Romantic

Dear Romantic,

Well honestly, Valentines day is stupid. It's a day designed for wimps who don't ever talk to the people they like so they can buy them something and think they're cool. You shouldn't buy her a card at all. In fact you shouldn't do anything, because you're stupid for thinking to get her a card... but since it is the month of love I suppose I'll be generous and reveal one of my many love tips to woo the ladies.

Now honestly, there is no better way to win a girl over then by showing your care for her by protecting her. But how could you ever show her this strength? It's quite simple actually... Just hire a friend to assault her. While she may be startled, when her assailant moves in you can jump to the rescue and win the girl over with a display of love and brute strength. In the case that you wind up on the losing end of this fight you could be out of luck. Lets just hope you have good insurance, because you're going to have to hire a shrink to heal the broken heart you'll have after the few weeks of surgery.

-Genius

SUBMIT TO THE Q&A Section!!

We need you, the students and teachers of ACMA to keep this section of the newspaper alive.

Submit questions to savantcrew@gmail.com or drop off a hand written question to one of our boxes located in the library and Mr. Sicking's room A154.

If you want a SERIOUS response please say so otherwise you'll get an answer from the peanut gallery (Genius and LoveDaddy).

AGAIN, SUBMIT QUESTIONS!

Savascope

By Tia Renner, Junior

Picture source - <http://www.paganlink.org/clipart/astrology/astrology-02.gif>

Aries-

(March 21 - April 19)

You've been feeling a little run down lately, but it's only your mind-set. Your insight has been beneficial, so use it, your own good influence might help you out a bit. You love to motivate people, so why not motivate yourself? Try starting a new project for spring.



Capricorn-
(December 22 - January 19)

Admiring looks have been following you everywhere you go. You've been a little extra insecure and introverted as of late, but don't let it get the best of you. Going out with your friends is a good way to pull you out of this strange mood.



Sagittarius-

(November 22 - December 21)

You've been a social butterfly as of late, making friends with new people. Don't forget about loyalty though, many people will begin to hold you accountable for more than you can handle. Take a step back and analyze your priorities.



Scorpio-

(October 23 - November 21)

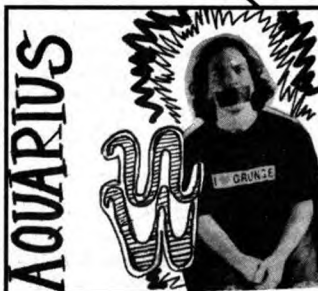
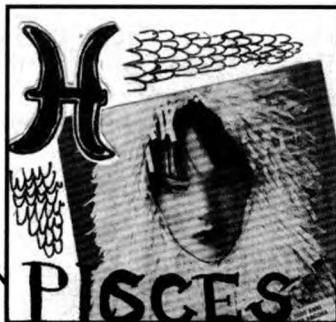
You have a lot of talent; all you need to do is show it to someone you look up to, like a teacher. Don't be afraid of their judgment, because if they like what your doing, they will become a great help to you and your goal.



Aquarius-

(January 20 - February 18)

If something important needs to be done, take the initiative and people will praise you along the way. Try to let weak friendships fade naturally, and focus more on those who are truest to you. Relationships are set to change significantly this month.



Pisces-

(February 19 - March 20)

You've been emotionally drained for a long time now. A new energy should be coming to you, and those around you will see a bolder side of you that is usually kept hidden. Take a risk in a relationship or creative area. Either way, you'll have success.



Taurus-

(April 20 - May 20)

This month you've had plenty of energy, but you've noticed that it's dwindling. You want to be active but you do so with caution. You desire to be grounded and practical, but you're only in confusion. Try to let compassion lead your actions.



Gemini-

(May 21 - June 20)

You're content with where you stand and those around you are too, but is peace all that you wanted? Your intuition has been favorable as of late, and those around you are starting to notice you've been observing more than they knew.



Cancer-

(June 21 - July 22)

Something strange has influenced you, and you'd been feeling dissatisfied with something new, only to grow to like it, this applies to affection and love also. Your feelings play a big factor; try to pay attention to how others are feeling.



Leo-

(July 23 - August 22)

You've been feeling a bit anxious, so take it slow and you'll see that things will start to open up for you. Try to start your actions and projects with concise plans and realize that something good takes time before its unveil.



Libra-

(September 23- October 22)

You reap what you sow, and this month you really are. All that time you've been spending on getting to know your crush/loved one is paying off, tell them how you feel. They'll be glad to hear it.



Virgo -

(August 23 - September 22)

check your intentions before you rush into things. You have lots of energy rushing into distracted thoughts, causing your imagination to over-react. You're passionate, but try to slow down and double check things this month.



A Parent Rants Back

Gary Stein

My high school's nickname was the Braves. Our mascot was an Indian in war paint; our band wore beautiful feathered headdresses.

As a youngster, I wore a costume to school every Oct. 31 and joined in the Halloween parade. Every December, there was a Christmas tree in the school lobby and another in front of city hall.

Not anymore.

My high school band now wears the same dorky hats every other band does, and the Native American mascot is gone. Schools have Harvest Festivals and Winter Breaks. And that's a Holiday Tree sitting in Pioneer Courthouse Square. All the result, as James Dilapo contends, of a country fractured into hypersensitive subgroups, a country where we have all become very, very afraid of offending anyone.

But Dilapo, in his "Hear No Evil" rant in the January Savant, is wrong in equating a newspaper's refusal to publish curse words with political correctness. One has absolutely nothing to do with the other.

Political correctness stems from this country's transformation from a "melting pot" society, in which people of every race, creed and religion came together to become "Americans," into one in which we celebrate the things that make us different from our neighbor. There is no longer a single moral compass that points to right or wrong, and so we go to great lengths to filter our words and our behavior in an effort to avoid offending anyone and escape the lawsuit that's sure to follow if we do.

Dilapo contends that it is this fear of being politically incorrect, of offending one segment of the ACMA community, that keeps Savant from publishing curse words. He's wrong. On this issue, at least, it's really more about the morals and values that unite us, not divide us.

In 1957, the United States Supreme Court said that material is considered obscene "if it is contrary to the contemporary standards of the community."

Note the language.

It doesn't matter if the word "damn" offends one segment of the ACMA community as long as the community as a whole condones its use.

Forget political correctness. Parents may be upset to see "damn" in the school paper; maybe some teachers or students are, too. But if the community as a whole feels the word is appropriate, the courts have ruled, then Dilapo should be allowed to use it.

So how do we determine what ACMA community standards are? Unfortunately for

Dilapo, the answer is the same for student journalists as it is for my colleagues at The Oregonian.

The Man.

In the public arena, the community elects school boards with the expectation that their morals and values will be represented. School boards appoint principals. And principals, in the traditional role of publisher, translate the standards of the community in which they live into a set of rules that dictates the content of the newspapers their students create.

It isn't any different for professional journalists. At Willamette Week, publisher Richard Meeker has determined that his community is ready to read the "f" word in print. But at The Oregonian, Fred Stickel believes his community isn't ready to see advertising for condoms or read any language stronger than "hell" or "damn."

Who's right? Willamette Week distributes 90,000 free papers a week; The Oregonian's paid circulation tops 350,000 a day. That ka-ching you hear may be the community making its standards known.

Like Meeker and Stickel, it's left to principal Michael Johnson to enforce his community's standards, not out of a fear of offending people but because of an understanding of what his community expects.

Granted, community standards are evolving and the sense of what is appropriate changes by the day. Many journalists agree that the language has passed us by. But while everybody loves Raymond when he calls his brother an SOB on network television, they're still not ready for him to talk like Tony Soprano outside the restricted realm of HBO.

Or to read those kinds of words in a student newspaper.

Back when the band wore headdresses and I was a student journalist, my teachers taught me to love the beauty and power of language. They showed me that the best writers can exclaim without exclamation points, ponder without question marks, rant and rail without profanity. They refined my ability to engage and entertain and inform simply by using my words.

And sometimes, they gave me a hug. Oddly, I was never, ever offended.

Gary Stein is assistant managing editor/advertorial at The Oregonian and the parent of an ACMA sixth-grader. His daughter almost never hears him curse.

The Counterpoint to "A Parent Rants back"

James DiLapo, Junior

I have nothing but respect for Mr. Stein as a writer, and admiration for him as a person. He's given great feedback to Savant, as well as taken time out of his busy schedule to work with me on some of my individual writing pieces. Having said that, I disagree entirely with his interpretation of my article on political correctness.

I understand entirely why the "f" word is not appropriate for publication in Savant or widely read news outlets such as the Oregonian. I'm not trying to advocate the use of gratuitous foul language solely for shock value, nor do I believe that I've ever written an article that offensive. There is a difference however, between editing out of respect for your audience and editing out of fear. We edit at Savant out of a blind fear of our audience instead of out of a sense of responsibility.

When we, at Savant, lose touch of the real reason of why we should censor, I believe we strip away the very soul of the newspaper. Online Predators, African Rape, and teen alcohol are all deemed acceptable topics for publication, yet comedy writers at this school work with a hand tied behind their back simply out of fear. They can't even

publish the word "damn." Nothing we write is anymore offensive than the rest of the newspaper, and I challenge you as an audience to find a single one of my articles that's more controversial than those topics.

Savant has an irrational fear of our audience, so grand that we worry anything written under the banner of comedy will inspire screaming crowds to descend down upon this school with burning pitchforks.



Photographer
Jasmine Edayan

Why does Gary Stein get to tell Savant what he thinks and no one else does? Well, that's because he took the time to read the articles and intelligently respond to the one that got his mind thinking. Being the copywrite editor for The Oregonian, censorship is sure to be a topic that hits home for him. If ever you are reading this newspaper, which happens to be YOUR newspaper by the way, and you find an article that inspires you to think, send us your thoughts! Its quite easy, just write a little something, make sure to spell check it, maybe have a friend or Mr. Albertson read it over and then e-mail it to us, at Savantcrew@gmail.com.

If Gary can do it, you can to!
(even if you are a parent)

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